

## The Media

Facts and events	<p>Definition: "Media" is the name of <b>communication</b> tools. There are many forms of media: newspapers, TV, the radio, the Internet... Media are evolving with society and the access to information isn't the same as in the past:</p> <p>With the improvement of the Internet, people have information faster than in the past. Information spreads all around the world very easily. This leads to a different consumption, because of those <b>cultural innovations</b>. This can raise the issue of the control of information and the significant number of <b>fake news</b> causes a distrust in the media</p> <p>Ex: Donald Trump who didn't want to recognize his defeat against Joe Biden, and said on TV that the election was fraudulent</p> <p>Ex: Influence of social media, like Facebook which removed advertising a few weeks before the American elections so as not to influence voters, but this is a proof of their influence and their responsibility (something they didn't want to admit at first)</p> <p><b>Distrust in the media</b> has increased: recent polls have shown that, globally, twice as many people distrust the media as trust it. People watch less news and generally cut back on news. This is due to the number of fake news but also because some media are in the hands of a few billionaires</p> <p>Ex: Media can be public like the BBC which is a state-funded corporation which has five radio stations and two main television channels, it is independent as it does not broadcast any advertising.</p> <p><b>Freedom of Speech</b> is not respected in every country. In those countries, people are not free to say what they want, and governments are not transparent with their nation and even with other countries, they are using <b>censorship</b>.</p> <p>Ex: On TikTok, a 17-year-old girl has disguised a video about the Uighur situation in China as a make-up tutorial. The video of this whistleblower has been deleted in China.</p> <p>Ex: Putin sent his competitor Alexei Navalny in jail and tried to poison him.</p> <p>Ex: Samuel Paty's death because he showed caricatures in class.</p> <p><b>The Fourth Estate</b> is a phrase commonly used to refer to the media, and more precisely to the Press. The Press is seen as a fourth branch of power in the USA, alongside the Executive, the Legislative and the Judiciary. Therefore, the notion of the Fourth Estate implies that the media play <b>a regulatory role</b> in a democracy by holding political leaders accountable to their fellow-citizens.</p> <p>Ex: The Press's role in several revelations: the Watergate scandal (1974) led to the resignation of President Nixon. Wikileaks (2010), Edward Snowden (2013), Panama Papers (2016), Pandora Papers (2021)...</p>
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Problématiques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are Facebook and other social media platforms harmful to our society / our democracy?</li> <li>• Has the surge of free online information changed the content of information?</li> <li>• Should people share information they get with others?</li> <li>• To what extent can journalists manipulate public opinion?</li> <li>• Nowadays, is it possible to have unbiased and independent information?</li> <li>• Why is press freedom essential in a democratic society?</li> </ul>
Idées d'amorces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• « The people will believe what the media tells them they believe. » - George Orwell</li> <li>• The average American watches over 5 hours of TV a day. (from BLS American Time Use Survey)</li> <li>• Social media platforms are used by one-in-three people in the world, and more than two-thirds of all are internet users. (from the website 'Our World in Data')</li> <li>• By the mid-term, Trump had said nearly 4,200 fake news according to <i>The Washington Post</i>.</li> </ul>
Vocabulaire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a breach of ethics : une faute éthique</li> <li>• a broadsheet: un journal grand format</li> <li>• a journal : une revue</li> <li>• an Internet user: un internaute</li> <li>• A survey = une enquête</li> <li>• a tabloid : un quotidien populaire</li> <li>• an editor : un rédacteur en chef</li> <li>• Columnist = un journaliste</li> <li>• data processing : le traitement des informations</li> <li>• Debate is stifled = le débat est étouffé</li> <li>• make the headlines : faire la une des journaux</li> <li>• investigate : enquêter</li> <li>• media coverage : la couverture médiatique</li> <li>• news gathering : la collecte des informations</li> <li>• the freedom of the press: la liberté de la presse</li> <li>• self-censorship : l'autocensure</li> <li>• Silence someone = réduire qqn au silence</li> <li>• slander : une diffamation</li> <li>• the gutter press : la presse à scandale</li> <li>• the ratings : le taux d'audience</li> <li>• to broadcast : diffuser</li> <li>• to inform : mettre au courant, informer</li> <li>• to raise people's awareness: sensibiliser l'opinion publique</li> <li>• viewers : les téléspectateurs</li> <li>• be subject to censorship: être soumis à la censure</li> <li>• On / off the record : de source officielle / de source officieuse</li> <li>• A news agency: une agence de presse</li> <li>• Media hype: le battage médiatique</li> </ul>